

MR. C. KUMARA DAS (*Director of Industries*): No.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara I*): May I know whether *bona fide* Travancoreans have recently applied for the contract to run the factory?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS (*Director of Industries*): Yes.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara I*): May I know what has happened to those applications?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS (*Director of Industries*): Since there is a contract already in force, those applications could not be considered.

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam II*): At any time, has the factory worked throughout the year?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS (*Director of Industries*): No.

Sarkara-Althramoodu road in Chirayinkil.

228. *MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) what is the length of the Sarkara-Althramoodu road that lies between Bhagavathi Kottaram and Perunal Kottaram in Chirayinkil;

(b) whether the road is being maintained by the P. W. D.;

(c) whether it was maintained in the years 1111 and 1112 M. E. (15-3-12);

(d) whether the Government are aware that the road is in a dirty and useless condition at present;

(e) whether the road is unworthy for traffic; and

(f) why the road is not properly maintained?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): (a) 4122 feet.

(b) No.

(c) This does not arise.

(d) The road is usable for carts and pedestrians.

(e) This does not arise.

(f) This does not arise in view of the answer to part (b).

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): With reference to the answer to part (d), may I know whether the road is useful for cart traffic and for pedestrians?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): The answer says it is.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): The answer says that it is usable. I want to know whether it is useful.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): Carts and pedestrians are using it; therefore it must be useful.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Are the Government aware that it is on account of the absence of any other road that the people are compelled to make this road usable by carts and pedestrians?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): That question by the honourable member makes it clear that the road is useful.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): If the road is useful why is it that it is not being maintained properly?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): It is maintained by the Devaswom Department, I believe.

Maintenance of Alleppey-Shertala Canal.

229. *MR. K. M. KRISHNAN (*Ambalapuzha II*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether any expense is yearly incurred in connection with the maintenance of the Alleppey-Shertala Canal that has been already opened;

(b) if so, the amount so incurred for the last 7 years from 1105 to 1111 (both inclusive);

(c) whether sand is being silted up in the canal every year during rainy seasons; and

(d) whether the Government are aware that the cocoanut trees standing on either side of the canal have become unyielding on account of the existence of the incomplete canal?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): (a) Yes.

(b) The amount incurred in

Year.	Rs.
1105	1,204
1106	897
1107	669
1108	1,160
1109	978
1110	736
1111	1,535

(c) Yes, but the silt is removed then and there.

(d) No.

MR. K. M. KRISHNAN (*Ambalapuzha II*): May I know the various works that have to be done in connection with the maintenance of the canal?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): The removing of the silt and the trimming of the banks.

MR. K. M. KRISHNAN (*Ambalapuzha II*): May I know whether the same kind of work has to be attended to year after year?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): I believe so.

MR. K. M. KRISHNAN (*Ambalapuzha II*): If so, why is it that the expenditure varies from year to year?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): More silt might have accumulated in a certain year, and of course, it would cost more to be removed.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtila*): Has any progress been made in the construction of this canal, since 1105?